



Director Mark Gwyn

Tennessee Bureau of Investigation

In 2004, Governor Phil Bredesen appointed Mark Gwyn as the Director of the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI), the state's lead investigative law enforcement agency. He is the first African American to ever serve in this capacity. The position prompted Director Gwyn to be a catalyst for change within the bureau emphasizing the use of technology in law enforcement.

Director Gwyn has completed some of the most prestigious law enforcement and leadership training programs in the industry including the John F. Kennedy School of Government from Harvard University and the FBI's Leadership in Counterterrorism program. He is a graduate of the Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy, the TBI Criminal Investigation Academy, the 195th session of the FBI National Academy, and the 59th session of the FBI's Law Enforcement Executive Development Seminar. In 1999, he graduated from the Tennessee Government Executive Institute. Director Gwyn also received extensive terrorism training conducted in Israel by the Israeli National Police while attending the Georgia International Law Enforcement Exchange.

A native of McMinnville, TN, Director Gwyn has spent his entire career in public safety. A graduate of Middle Tennessee State University, he began as a patrolman with the McMinnville Police Department, then joined the TBI as a Special Agent in 1988. He was promoted to Executive Officer in 1996 and then supervised the state's three crime labs as TBI Assistant Director in charge of the Forensic Services Division until accepting the Director's position.

Since becoming Director, Gwyn has expanded the TBI into a far reaching law enforcement agency. He has overseen the creation of the Technical Services Unit putting an emphasis on high tech surveillance methods, computer forensics and battling internet crime with the launch of a Cyber Crimes Unit. Under his watch, the state's Fusion Center was constructed within TBI headquarters housing Homeland Security among other programs such as AMBER Alert and Tennessee's Sex Offender Registry. With a strong belief that drugs are the root of most crimes, Director Gwyn has committed the Drug Investigation Division to targeting mid to high level drug dealers. Director Gwyn has been an active member of the Governor's Meth Task Force, which crafted legislation designed to stop methamphetamine production across the state. Currently, the Director is instrumental in halting the distribution, sale and abuse of prescription drugs.

Director Gwyn sits on the IACP Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Committee as well as the University of Tennessee National Forensic Academy Board. Locally, he serves on the Board of Directors for the Salvation Army and Second Harvest Food Bank.